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mixing them to produce a uniform mixture. The disperse liquid is then applied onto the substrate to form the ink-receiving layer. Techniques that can be used for applying the disperse liquid to the substrate include roll coating, rod bar coating, slot die coating or the like.--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓
Please cancel Claims 2, 4 and 5 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained herein.

✓
Please amend Claims 1, 3 and 9-11, and add new Claim 12 as follows. A marked-up version of these claims is also attached. All of the pending claims in the application have been included for the Examiner's convenience.

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1. (Twice Amended) An ink-jet recording medium, comprising a base sheet and an ink-receiving layer on the base sheet, for use in an ink-jet image forming method in which a transparent film layer formed on a substrate as coating is placed on the ink-receiving layer on which recording has been conducted, and then the side of said substrate is heated to transfer said transparent film layer on said ink-receiving layer, followed by peeling off said substrate to laminate said transparent film layer on the surface of said ink receiving layer, said ink-receiving layer containing polyvinyl alcohol and an epoxy compound as a cross-linking agent, wherein the content of the polyvinyl alcohol in said ink-receiving layer is not lower than

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30 weight %, and the content of the epoxy compound is such that 1 to 10 equivalents of epoxy ring is contained based on 100 equivalents of OH group of the polyvinyl alcohol.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Amended) The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the degree of saponification of said polyvinyl alcohol is between 78% and 89%.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Not Amended Herein) The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said ink-receiving layer contains porous inorganic particles.

7. (Not Amended Herein) The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 6, wherein said porous inorganic particles are silica.

8. (Not Amended Herein) The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 7, wherein the average particle diameter of silica is between 5 μ m and 7 μ m.

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9. (Amended) The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the average degree of polymerization of said polyvinyl alcohol is between 1,500 and 3,600.

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10. (Amended) The ink-jet printed article comprising the ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1 having an image formed on the ink-receiving layer thereof, said transparent film layer being formed on said ink-receiving layer as coating.

11. (Amended) An image forming method comprising the steps of forming an image on the ink-receiving layer of the ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1 by ink-jet and coating said ink-receiving layer with the transparent film layer by heating.

[Please insert new Claim 12 as follows.]

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--12. (New) An ink-jet recording medium comprising a base sheet and an ink-receiving layer on the base sheet, said ink-receiving layer containing polyvinyl alcohol and an epoxy compound as a cross-linking agent, wherein the content of the polyvinyl alcohol in said ink-receiving layer is not lower than 30 weight %, and the content of the epoxy compound is such that 1 to 10 equivalents of epoxy ring is contained based on 100 equivalents of OH group of the polyvinyl alcohol.--